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EXAMINER	
ROST, ANDREW J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3753	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/12/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

NBN-IntelProp@bshg.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/529,002	HAEDICKE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andrew J. Rost	3753	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 August 2010*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *14-18,20,22,23 and 25-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *14-18,20,22,23 and 25-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *20 May 2008* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed 8/17/2010. Claims 14, 20, 26, 29 and 30 are currently amended. No claims are newly added. Claims 1-13, 19, 21 and 24 have been canceled. Presently, claims 14-18, 20, 22, 23 and 25-30 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicants' arguments filed 8/17/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue the rejection of claims 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Laurent (5,145,148) on page 8, last paragraph. Applicants argue the elements that are considered the mobile magnetic anchor of the Laurent reference. It is considered that the mobile magnetic anchor is a combination of elements 20, 26, 54 and 56 (wherein elements 54 and 56 are both part of a pin 38). A portion of the element 54 is received within a depression of the element 20 (see figure 1) wherein element 56 is secured to the outer surface of the element 54. It is considered that the elements 20, 26, 54 and 56 are held together by the compressive forces of the spring 32 and 36. It is considered that the outer circumference of the element 20 is guided along the inner diameter of the element that defines a gap 46 wherein the outer circumference of the element 20 is considered a first guide section. Additionally, it is considered that the interaction between the outer surfaces of element 56 and the wall of the through-bore provides a guide section wherein the outer surface

of the element 56 provides a second guide section. It is considered that the first guide section is made of a metal and the second guide section is made of a plastic material (see cross-hatchings in figure 1). The guide sections provide a close fit relationship with the inner circumferential surfaces of the element the armature is supported and housing 12 such that the mobile magnetic anchor is able to slide. Applicants argue the rejection of the Laurent reference with respect to the newly added limitation of "each of said at least two magnetic anchor guide sections is a separate and independent component". However, it is considered that each of the guide sections are separate and independent components from each other (one is made of metal and the other is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1 wherein the guide sections are spaced apart). Are the guide sections supposed to be separate and independent components from the rest of the other components in the assembly (i.e., the guide sections are not a part of the mobile magnetic anchor)? The limitation “each of said at least two magnetic anchor guide section is a separate and independent component" is taken to mean that the guide sections are spaced apart and are made from a different component (in this case, of a different material).

Applicants argue the rejection of claims 14-18, 20, 23, 26 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hofmann (WO99/37517 with U.S. Patent 6,322,049 being used as the translation) on page 9, first and second full paragraphs. Applicants argue the element 13 does not serve a guiding function for the magnet armature. The Hofmann reference discloses "magnet armature 14 is guided longitudinally movably in the valve housing 11" in col. 2, lines 31-32 (of U.S. Patent

6,322,049 which is being used as the translation). Therefore, it is considered that the first guide section (inner surface of housing 11) guides the armature (combination of 14 and press-fitted tappet 15) in the same manner as the second guide section (guide body 13) guides the cylindrical shaft (29) of the lower portion of the armature (combination of 14 and 15). Both of the guide sections provide an opening through which at least a portion of the armature is longitudinally movably disposed with the guide sections providing sidewalls which would prevent the armature from moving radially beyond the sidewalls. Therefore, it is considered that both the housing (11) and the guide body (13) are guide sections for the armature (combination of 14 and 15). Applicants argue the newly added recitation of "directly guide" with respect to the Hofmann reference. However, it is considered that both the housing (11) and the guide boy (13) "directly" guide the armature (14, 15) since additional structure is not present between the either the housing (11) and the armature (14) or the guide body (13) and the armature (15). Is the term “directly guide” intended to reference a direct contact between the outer surfaces of the magnetic anchor and the inner surfaces of the guide sections such that the outer surfaces of the magnetic anchor slides on the inner surface of the guide section? The limitation “directly guide” is take to mean that the guide section guide the magnetic anchor without the presence of any additional structure between the anchor and the guide sections.

3. Applicant’s arguments, see page 9, third full paragraph of the remarks, filed 8/17/2010, with respect to the rejections of Kolze (4,697,608) in view of Brehm et al.

(5,636,828) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Kolze in view of Brehm et al. has been withdrawn.

4. Since the new grounds of rejection (new grounds in that clarification of the previously presented grounds of rejection was necessitated by applicants' amendment) were necessitated by applicants' amendment, the instant Office action is made final.

Drawings

5. The drawings were received on 5/20/2008. These drawings are acceptable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23, 26 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Laurent (5,145,148).

Regarding claims 14 and 26, Laurent discloses a valve assembly for closing a fluid path (path defined between inlet port 22 and outlet port 24) of a body (12) wherein the valve assembly has an armature housing (12 and element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46) that houses a mobile magnetic anchor (20, 26, 54 and 56), a

valve seat (28) in which the mobile magnetic anchor includes a valve closing element (26) that presses on the valve seat to close the fluid path and at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (56 and the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 that are guided along the inner surface of the armature housing that defines a gap 46 wherein the guide sections are guide sections in as much as disclosed by applicant) that are spaced axially apart with the at least two magnetic anchor guides being made from different materials including one being made of a plastic (element 56 which guides the mobile magnetic anchor along a passage in element 12 is constructed of plastic as shown in figure 1) and with the other magnetic anchor guide being made of a metal (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 is constructed of a metal as shown in figure 1) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding the magnetic anchor (the interaction of the guide sections with the surface that faces the guide section provides a direct guiding feature) and wherein the valve assembly further includes an electromagnetic coil (18) for operating the valve assembly with the electromagnetic coil being arranged as a separate component outside of the armature housing (coil 18 is contained within a separate housing including element 16).

Note: the material flowing through the device is not given patentable weight unless the device is not capable of functioning with the intended fluid(s). See MPEP 2115.

In regards to claim 15, Laurent discloses the electromagnetic coil (18) is arranged gastight separately from the flow path (the coil 18 is encased within a separate housing including element 16 and a fluid that is able to enter gap 46 is contained by the use of seals 50 and 52).

In regards to claim 17, Laurent discloses the electromagnetic coil (18) to be arranged on the outside of the body (12).

In regards to claim 18, Laurent discloses a portion of the magnetic anchor protrudes outside of the body (portion 20 of the magnetic anchor is located outside of the body 12).

In regards to claim 20, Laurent discloses one of the at least two magnetic anchor guide sections is positioned within the body (guide 56 is located within the body 12) and the other of the at least two magnetic anchor guide sections is positioned outside the body (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 that is guided along the inner surface of the armature housing that defines the gap 46 is located outside the body 12).

In regards to claim 23, Laurent discloses the armature housing to be formed in two separate parts including a section that is received within the body (12) and a section that is projecting from the body (element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46).

Regarding claim 29, Laurent discloses a valve assembly for closing a fluid path (path defined between inlet port 22 and outlet port 24) of a body (12) wherein the valve assembly has an armature housing (12 and element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46) that houses a mobile magnetic anchor (20, 26, 54 and 56), a valve seat (28) in which the mobile magnetic anchor includes a valve closing element (26) that presses on the valve seat to close the fluid path and at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (56 and the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 that are guided along the inner surface of the armature housing that defines a gap 46 wherein the guide sections are guide sections in as much as disclosed by applicant) that are spaced axially apart with the at least two magnetic anchor guides being made from different materials including one being made of a plastic (element 56 which guides the mobile magnetic anchor along a passage in element 12 is constructed of plastic as shown in figure 1) and with the other magnetic anchor guide being made of a metal (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 is constructed of a metal as shown in figure 1) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding the magnetic anchor (the interaction of the guide sections with the surface that faces the guide section provides a direct guiding feature) and wherein the valve assembly further includes an electromagnetic coil (18) for operating the valve assembly

with the electromagnetic coil being arranged as a separate component outside of the armature housing (coil 18 is contained within a separate housing including element 16).

8. Claims 14-18, 20, 23, 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hofmann et al. (WO99/37517 with US Patent 6,322,049 being used as the translation).

Regarding claims 14 and 26, Hofmann et al. disclose a valve assembly with a housing (combination of elements 11 and the valve body element 12) and having a mobile magnetic anchor (14 and 15); a valve seat (26); the mobile magnetic anchor including a valve closing element (28) which presses on the valve seat to close a fluid path (col. 2, lines 51-54); at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (inner surface of 11 along which the element 14 slides and guide 13 through which the narrowed portion 29 of the magnetic anchor translates) positioned and axially spaced apart in the armature housing with the at least two magnetic anchor guide sections being made of different materials, a first one (inner surface of 11 along which the element 14 slides) being made from metal (figure 1) and a second one (guide 13) being made from a plastic material (figure 1); an electromagnetic coil (19) for activating the mobile magnetic anchor and valve closing element to open the flow path when a voltage is applied (col. 3, lines 5-6) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding

the magnetic anchor (additional structure is not present between the magnetic anchor 14, 15 and the guide sections 11, 13 as shown in figure 1 and therefore, it is considered that the guide sections directly guide the magnetic anchor) and the electromagnetic coil is arrange as a separate component outside the armature housing on a magnetic insert (18).

In regards to claim 15, Hofmann et al. disclose the electromagnetic coil is arrange gastight separately from the gas path (various seals prevent the flow of the fluid from the flow path to the coil; figure 1).

In regards to claim 16, Hofmann et al. disclose the electromagnetic coil is attached on the outside of the armature (figure 1) to easily detach therefrom (the coil is arranged on a separate component that is capable of being removed from the armature housing).

In regards to claim 17, Hofmann et al. disclose the electromagnetic coil is arranged outside the body defining the flow path.

In regards to claim 18, Hofmann et al. disclose at least a portion of the mobile magnetic anchor extends outside the body defining the flow pat (figure 1).

In regards to claim 20 (as best understood), Hofmann et al. disclose one of the magnetic anchor guide sections (guide 13) to be positioned within the body defining the flow path and the other magnetic guide section (surface of 11 that the element 14 slides) is positioned partially outside the body defining the flow path (figure 1).

In regards to claim 23, Hofmann et al. disclose the armature housing is formed in two separate parts with a first armature section (12) being set in the body that defines

the flow path and the other (11) projecting from the body defining the flow path (figure 1).

Regarding claim 30, Hofmann et al. disclose a valve assembly with a housing (combination of elements 11 and the valve body element 12) and having a mobile magnetic anchor (14 and 15); a valve seat (26); the mobile magnetic anchor including a valve closing element (28) which presses on the valve seat to close a fluid path (col. 2, lines 51-54); at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (inner surface of 11 along which the element 14 slides and guide 13 through which the narrowed portion 29 of the magnetic anchor translates) positioned and axially spaced apart in the armature housing with the at least two magnetic anchor guide sections being made of different materials, a first one (inner surface of 11 along which the element 14 slides) being made from metal (figure 1) and a second one (guide 13) being made from a plastic material (figure 1) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding the magnetic anchor (additional structure is not present between the magnetic anchor 14, 15 and the guide sections 11, 13 as shown in figure 1 and therefore, it is considered that the guide sections directly guide the magnetic anchor); an electromagnetic coil (19) for activating the mobile magnetic anchor and valve closing element to open the flow path when a voltage is applied (col. 3, lines 5-6) and the electromagnetic coil is mounted as a separate component on an outer circumference of

the first magnetic anchor guide section (the coil is mounted on an outer circumference of the housing 11 wherein the inner surface of 11 along which 14 slides is considered the first magnetic anchor guide section).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

11. Claims 22 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laurent (5,145,148) in view of Grant et al. (5,188,017).

Laurent discloses a valve assembly for closing a fluid path (path defined between inlet port 22 and outlet port 24) of a body (12) wherein the valve assembly has an

armature housing (12 and element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46) that houses a mobile magnetic anchor (20, 26, 54 and 56), a valve seat (28) in which the mobile magnetic anchor includes a valve closing element (26) that presses on the valve seat to close the fluid path and at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (56 and the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 that are guided along the inner surface of the armature housing that defines a gap 46 wherein the guide sections are guide sections in as much as disclosed by applicant) that are spaced axially apart with the at least two magnetic anchor guides being made from different materials including one being made of a plastic (element 56 which guides the mobile magnetic anchor along a passage in element 12 is constructed of plastic as shown in figure 1) and with the other magnetic anchor guide being made of a metal (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 is constructed of a metal as shown in figure 1) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding the magnetic anchor (the interaction of the guide sections with the surface that faces the guide section provides a direct guiding feature) and wherein the valve assembly further includes an electromagnetic coil (18) for operating the valve assembly with the electromagnetic coil being arranged as a separate component outside of the armature housing (coil 18 is contained within a separate housing including element 16). Laurent does not disclose

the use of a counter-anchor. However, Grant et al. teach the use of a counter-anchor (78) placed on the side of a mobile magnetic anchor opposite a valve seat in order to limit the stroke length of the mobile magnetic anchor in order to ensure a proper sealing of the valve (col. 5, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the valve assembly of Laurent with a counter anchor as taught by Grant et al. in order to adjust the stroke path of the mobile magnetic armature.

12. Claims 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23 and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaselow (4,830,602) in view of Laurent (5,145,148)

Regarding claims 14, 27 and 28, Kaselow discloses a valve assembly having an electromagnetic valve (15), a tap axle (9) being located within a flow path of a fluid through a valve body (13) wherein the tap axle is pivoted (rotated about an axis) to permit or prevent a flow of fluid through the valve body. Kaselow does not expressly disclose the structure of the electromagnetic valve. However, Laurent discloses a valve assembly for closing a fluid path (path defined between inlet port 22 and outlet port 24) of a body (12) wherein the valve assembly has an armature housing (12 and element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46) that houses a mobile magnetic anchor (20, 26, 54 and 56), a valve seat (28) in which the mobile magnetic anchor includes a valve closing element (26) that presses on the valve seat to close the fluid path and at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (56 and the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 that are guided

along the inner surface of the armature housing that defines a gap 46 wherein the guide sections are guide sections in as much as disclosed by applicant) that are spaced axially apart with the at least two magnetic anchor guides being made from different materials including one being made of a plastic (element 56 which guides the mobile magnetic anchor along a passage in element 12 is constructed of plastic as shown in figure 1) and with the other magnetic anchor guide being made of a metal (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 is constructed of a metal as shown in figure 1) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding the magnetic anchor (the interaction of the guide sections with the surface that faces the guide section provides a direct guiding feature) and wherein the valve assembly further includes an electromagnetic coil (18) for operating the valve assembly with the electromagnetic coil being arranged as a separate component outside of the armature housing (coil 18 is contained within a separate housing including element 16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the electromagnetic valve of Kaselow as the electromagnetic valve in assembly as taught by Laurent in order to provide an electromagnetic valve that can be assembled in pieces for ease of manufacturing the electromagnetic valve.

Note: the material flowing through the device is not given patentable weight unless the device is not capable of functioning with the intended fluid(s). See MPEP 2115.

In regards to claim 15, Laurent discloses the electromagnetic coil (18) is arranged gastight separately from the flow path (the coil 18 is encased within a separate housing including element 16 and a fluid that is able to enter gap 46 is contained by the use of seals 50 and 52).

In regards to claim 17, Laurent discloses the electromagnetic coil (18) to be arranged on the outside of the body (12).

In regards to claim 18, Laurent discloses a portion of the magnetic anchor protrudes outside of the body (portion 20 of the magnetic anchor is located outside of the body 12).

In regards to claim 20, Laurent discloses one of the at least two magnetic anchor guide sections is positioned within the body (guide 56 is located within the body 12) and the other of the at least two magnetic anchor guide sections is positioned outside the body (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 is located outside the body 12).

In regards to claim 23, Laurent discloses the armature housing to be formed in two separate parts including a section that is received within the body (12) and a section that is projecting from the body (element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46).

Regarding claim 29, Kaselow discloses a valve assembly having an electromagnetic valve (15), a tap axle (9) being located within a flow path of a fluid

through a valve body (13) wherein the tap axle is pivoted (rotated about an axis) to permit or prevent a flow of fluid through the valve body. Kaselow does not expressly disclose the structure of the electromagnetic valve. However, Laurent discloses a valve assembly for closing a fluid path (path defined between inlet port 22 and outlet port 24) of a body (12) wherein the valve assembly has an armature housing (12 and element that supports spring 36 and defines a gap 46) that houses a mobile magnetic anchor (20, 26, 54 and 56), a valve seat (28) in which the mobile magnetic anchor includes a valve closing element (26) that presses on the valve seat to close the fluid path and at least two magnetic anchor guide sections (56 and the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 that are guided along the inner surface of the armature housing that defines a gap 46 wherein the guide sections are guide sections in as much as disclosed by applicant) that are spaced axially apart with the at least two magnetic anchor guides being made from different materials including one being made of a plastic (element 56 which guides the mobile magnetic anchor along a passage in element 12 is constructed of plastic as shown in figure 1) and with the other magnetic anchor guide being made of a metal (the element being defined as the outer portion of the anchor 20 that contains axially extending slots 48 is constructed of a metal as shown in figure 1) wherein each of the magnetic anchor guide sections are separate and independent structures (one guide section is made of metal and the other guide section is made of plastic as indicated in figure 1, therefore independent, and wherein the guide sections are spaced apart, therefore separate) with the guide sections directly guiding the magnetic anchor (the interaction of the guide

sections with the surface that faces the guide section provides a direct guiding feature) and wherein the valve assembly further includes an electromagnetic coil (18) for operating the valve assembly with the electromagnetic coil being arranged as a separate component outside of the armature housing (coil 18 is contained within a separate housing including element 16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the electromagnetic valve of Kaselow as the electromagnetic valve in assembly as taught by Laurent in order to provide an electromagnetic valve that can be assembled in pieces for ease of manufacturing the electromagnetic valve.

Note: the material flowing through the device is not given patentable weight unless the device is not capable of functioning with the intended fluid(s). See MPEP 2115.

Conclusion

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew J. Rost whose telephone number is 571-272-2711. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 - 4:30 M-Th and 7:00 - 12:00 Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hepperle can be reached on 571-272-4913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. J. R./
Examiner, Art Unit 3753

/John K. Fristoe Jr./
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3753